



Insight

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'We won't miss a beat'

by Maj. Gen. John F. Kimmons
Headquarters INSCOM

Over the last few weeks, the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command has changed out commanders in four of our 14 brigade-level commands and in about half of our 25 battalions. We also folded the 115th Military Intelligence Group flag in Hawaii and migrated the unit's signals intelligence mission to the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade.

During this same timeframe, I was also alerted for departure from INSCOM to assume deputy chief of staff, Army Intelligence duties. Maj. Gen. John DeFreitas will assume command of INSCOM in mid-August, following his return from Iraq as head of Multi-national Forces- Iraq Intelligence.

Those who don't know much about the kind of leaders we have here in INSCOM, or much about how "actionable intelligence" gets collected, fused and analyzed in support of the warfighter, might think that the "churn" associated with these personnel moves will be disruptive to our intelligence operations.

The many Soldiers and

Civilians who have a few years under their belts know better — we won't miss a beat. There are several reasons why:

- Generating "actionable intelligence" is 75 percent leadership and 100 percent "team sport" — INSCOM has leadership in depth across every discipline and grade, and justifiably self-confident modules and teams across every functional area.

- Our mission focus is clear and urgent — the effectiveness of military operations across the Global War on Terrorism, in Operations Iraq and Enduring Freedom, in the continental U.S. and every military theater depends directly on timely, tactically useful intelligence — we must produce it for our Army and nation.

- Most of the "hard work" gets done by tough, self-confident, empowered MI warriors, vertically and horizontally distributed throughout the battlefield on a 24/7 basis. I see no change.

- Commanders are paid to set their people up for mission and personal success. The newly arrived leaders are rock solid, have hard-won experience and understand the



DA photo

context of this historic period.

I couldn't be more proud of the entire INSCOM Team — words don't come close to capturing how impressed I am — which has brought all-source capabilities to a new level through selfless dedication and relentless hard work in every area of responsibility and environment. "Quiet professionals" reflects it best; steady, mature, focused application of intellect, technology and leadership to enable American and coalition forces to "reach out and touch someone" in an enduring manner. Even as we execute the Joint Intelligence Capability in Iraq, building on years of Information Dominance

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DeFreitas named INSCOM commander

Maj. Gen. John DeFreitas III assumes command of the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command during a ceremony at the Nolan Bldg., Fort Belvoir, Va., Aug. 17.

DeFreitas, who previously served as the deputy chief of staff for intelligence, C-2, Multi-National Force-Iraq, Operation Iraqi Freedom, replaces Maj. Gen. John F. Kimmons, who became the U.S. Army deputy chief of staff for intelligence, Aug. 1.

Prior to his assignment in Iraq, DeFreitas served as the deputy assistant chief of staff, C-2/J-2, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/United States Forces Korea.

Kimmons moves on to fill the position recently vacated by Lt. Gen. Keith B. Alexander, who is now the director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service. This marks the second time Kimmons has replaced Alexander, who served as INSCOM's commanding general from Feb. 12, 2001 to July 2, 2003.



DA photo

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Center advances and work across every theater, it's clear that our real asymmetric advantage is our people, who give us an "overmatch" advantage that our adversaries will never come close to matching. If we do things right, they'll only get to appreciate the awesome power of this, one time.

INSCOM's reputation as the Army's premier operational intelligence capability provider -- across all intelligence disciplines -- is richly deserved. Nevertheless, it's perishable. With our Army and nation engaged in the fourth year of war against a

global extremist insurgency, we need to leave no stone unturned in our continuing efforts to collect, produce and deliver relevant timely products, to drive key warfighter decisions and targeting, at all levels. I know INSCOM is more than up to the task.

Thank you for the privilege of serving with you during a historic wartime period; and for what each of you do every day for our Soldiers, Armed Forces and nation.

Maj. Gen. John F. Kimmons
(Col. Michael Bisacre, INSCOM's deputy commander, assumed command of INSCOM until Maj. Gen. John DeFreitas III arrives).

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Soldier saves life, earns Purple Heart



photo by Sgt. Sarah Smith

Sgt. Steven Connell is greeted by friends and family after receiving the Purple Heart for his actions in Iraq.

by Sgt. Sarah Smith
704th MI Brigade

A 704th Military Intelligence Brigade Soldier was awarded the Purple Heart during a ceremony at Fort George G. Meade, Md., July 27.

Sgt. Steven Connell, 20, operations noncommissioned officer, received the award for injuries sustained in a mortar attack in November while deployed to Mosul, Iraq.

Col. Dennis Thornton, brigade commander, 704th MI Brigade, presented the award in front of Soldiers, friends and family of Connell, including his grandfather Howard Bruch, who is a Korean War veteran.

During the ceremony, Thornton said the partial hearing loss Connell endures is a daily reminder of that fateful day.

Connell, a signals analyst, had just finished a meeting when a mortar exploded less than 10 feet from him and three others — Connell's team leader, an Iraqi informant (known as "the source") and an interpreter.

"We didn't even hear it coming," Connell said. "All I saw was smoke and dirt fly up."

"After it happened it was like everything stopped. Then we ran back into the office. I couldn't hear anything," he said.

His team leader had gone to radio in help. Meanwhile, Sgt. Andrew Warren, who was guarding weapons, came to help Connell take care of the source and interpreter.

The interpreter had holes in his arms from shrapnel, Connell said. The source was seriously injured with blood gushing from his chest.

"I knew if we didn't do anything, they were going to bleed out. They were going to die," Connell said. Being combat lifesaver qualified, he quickly took charge of the situation; telling Warren to take the less-injured interpreter to

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Fighting roadside bombs with ICE

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — The Army has developed a new device to thwart terrorist activities while saving service members' lives.

The Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) Countermeasure Equipment, otherwise known as ICE, was developed by a team of engineers, scientists and Soldiers at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico to defeat IEDs, which are the most prominent threat to deployed service members in Iraq.

The ICE device, which is roughly the size of a bread box uses commercial and military technology to jam signals that detonate enemy IEDs said Maj. Raymond D. Pickering, who helped lead the ICE design team at White Sands during its development. Thousands of ICE systems are being utilized by all of the military services, and thousands of more are on order according to Pickering.

He said that the design process involved thinking like a terrorist and acting like one too — fast.

"In the old days, we fought wars by buying a tank and then the enemy would buy a tank and try to defeat ours — that whole process took years," he said. "Nowadays, terrorists use mortar and artillery shells as weapons and trigger them with devices like a garage door opener." Pickering said explaining that they can purchase parts on the commercial market and design new weap-



Army photo

Staff Sgt. Jessie Latimer trains U.S. Marine Corps personnel on the installation of the ICE system in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

ons very quickly.

Due to the combined efforts of engineers, scientists and Soldiers working at the Army Research Laboratory at White Sands Missile Range and New Mexico State University's Physical Science Laboratory, ICE was conceptualized and fielded in less than six months.

"Normally, it takes years to develop a prototype, test, manufacture and field it. The desire to get a product in the hands of our fighting forces immediately and prevent further casualties overcame the lengthy process," Pickering said.

Shane Cunico, the lead ICE engineer at White Sands, said that everyday there's a delay in the process means a service member may not come home.

"Approximately three service members are killed by an IED everyday," he said. "We had to get the product into their hands as fast as we could

because even one day means something."

Cunico said the military's old acquisition process is costly in terms of time and money (millions of dollars) and that a terrorist can wipe out all of the work done by engineers by switching to a new weapon.

"Countering terrorism is like a big chess game where you make one move and they make another -- it's crucial that we stay one or two moves ahead of them," he said.

For their engineering efforts, Cunico, Pickering and Sam Mares, lead engineer at New Mexico State University, recently received one of the Army's Greatest Inventions Award for 2004, an annual competition to recognize excellence in achievement.

Richard Flores, White Sands manager for Survivability/Lethality Analysis Directorate and Army Research Laboratory,

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said the award and the impact of the device in terms of lives saved would not be possible without their sacrifice.

"They truly exemplified the Army spirit of working as a team," Flores said.

Cunico stressed ICE is an important development because it is an adaptable piece of equipment. "It's not a static device — we can add to its capabilities. If the process is too time consuming, the military ends up with a big paperweight that costs a lot of money and can't be adapted to the changing pace of terrorists."

There are other IED counter measure systems on the market that all serve a value, but ICE is different, he said.

"It's unique in the fact that it's a government design; it has programmability, can be fielded at a rapid pace and has an

unlimited capacity in terms of manufacturing," Cunico said. "Engineers can design almost anything, but it's important to get the product to the Soldier to see how it's tactically used because it affects design feasibility."

Cunico and Pickering both agree that Soldier input is crucial to engineering a useful product. "We have received a lot of positive feedback from the field and since then we have developed 5,000 remote control cables that can be used from the front seat or passenger side of a Humvee to activate the device," Cunico said.

They also stressed that there are a lot of people involved with ICE who believe in what they're doing.

"There was no ego involved — it required the efforts of many selfless people to get this product out there to save lives,"

Cunico said. He stated that without John Tirrell, a Joint IED Task Force member, and Marine Corps Maj. Bruce Paterson to kick down the first doors of bureaucracy, ICE would not be where it is today in the hands of service members who need it. Cunico also credits the strong leadership of Major Terrece Harris, Pickering's replacement who continues to lead the ICE program through its most critical stages.

In terms of maintenance, ICE can be repaired by Soldiers in theater at the unit level. Recalling a Marine who did not want to part with his box, Cunico smiled.

"He brought his box in to be reprogrammed and the shop told him to come back the next day, but he told them he was willing to wait because he was not leaving without it," Cunico said. "It's heartening to know our efforts really mean something to folks out there."

He said companies such as Canberra Aquila, Delta Engineering Group, Inc. and Raytheon Technical Services are working together to bring service members home to their families safely. "Naturally there's competition, but they're coordinating to give us what we need and build a common product for America's service members."

"We shifted our focus from missiles to a new emerging threat - the garage door opener. With ICE, this is how we think we can address the agile enemy but the battle will continue," Pickering said.



Army photo

Staff Sgt. Michael Keener inspects the installation of an ICE unit in a U.S. Marine Corps Humvee.

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the Humvee parked about 150 feet from their location. Meanwhile, Connell began aiding the other individual to the vehicle.

On the way to the Humvee, the Iraqi informant was losing strength and at one point fell into barbed wire. Connell yelled to his team leader to bring another Combat LifeSaver bag, and as they were about 30 feet from the Humvee, the Iraqi collapsed.

Connell's instinct was to stop the bleeding and to keep his patient calm. He took off his blouse and shirt to try and stop the bleeding. With another CLS bag, Connell was finally able to lessen the bleeding.

Although the Iraqi informant was in a coma for two weeks, medics told Connell the Iraqi lived because of his efforts.

After the informant was taken care of it was time to see if Connell was okay. When he was examined, blood was coming out of his right ear and he had a few scratches on his forehead from the blast. His eardrum had two holes in it and he was completely deaf for two weeks after the attack.

"I'm a Soldier and I acted like a Soldier," Connell said.

His actions, more than his



photo by Sgt. Sarah Smith

Sgt. Steven Connell is congratulated by member of the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade after receiving the Purple Heart, July 27.

injury, captivated his command.

"What I find most compelling about what Connell did was that his first instinct was to help others even though he himself was injured," Thornton said.

"One of the reasons that we train is so that we can perform under pressure, which in his case was close combat. His combat lifesaver training, no doubt saved the life of an Iraqi who was attempting to help the coalition," he said.

Connell's story also helped to reiterate the importance of

Army training. "Repetition in training guarantees a Soldier's ability to perform that task even under intense pressure," Thornton said.

In turn, he said, Soldiers should see the relevance in the repetition because "some day that may save their lives or the lives of others."

"If I'm ever in a situation like that again, I want my Soldiers to feel confident," Connell said. "I want them to be able to count on me to do what needs to get done."

More opportunities for Army spouses

The Army has announced a new spouse employment Web site containing more than 26,000 job vacancies. It is designed to provide spouses employment opportunities while fulfilling corporate America's demand for skilled workers. Military Spouse Job Search is a database where spouses can build their resumes and research valuable information. Spouses can also access career tools, labor market information, career assessment, training and education opportunities as well as information on colleges and technical schools. As a pre-requisite for access to Military Spouse Job Search, employers must be an inducted partner or accepted new partner in the Army Spouse Employment Partnership. For more information, visit the Web site at: www.militaryspousejobsearch.org.

Military Idol competition kicks off

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (Army News Service) — The first round of Military Idol competition began this week on U.S. Army installations around the world.

The program, a takeoff of FOX Television's "American Idol," will determine which Soldier is the inaugural Military Idol after a final week of singing competition Oct. 17 through 23 at Fort Gordon, Ga.

To reach the finals, Soldier-vocalists must first win a competition on one of 36 installations. Depending on the number of local competitors, that process could take from one to eight weeks.

The Military Idol program is the brainchild of Coleen Amstein, who works in business programs for the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, and Victor Hurtado, artistic director for the U.S. Army Soldier Show, one of several programs offered by Army Entertainment Division.

"I had been working with the Idol folks for a while and in the back of my mind I had wondered how we could put something together for our Soldiers," Hurtado said. "I received an e-mail from Coleen Amstein asking what I thought about doing an Idol promotion and asking if I could help. She had no idea about my connections with Idol."

While visions of Soldier Idols were forming in Hurtado's head, Amstein and the CFSC business programs team were



brainstorming events for MWR facilities.

"We thought: 'Wouldn't it be great if we could bring something like American Idol into our clubs?' Amstein said. "But we didn't really have the talent or the connections to do something like that."

Hurtado contacted officials at FremantleMedia, which holds the rights to "American Idol."

"The concept of what we could do was the easy part," Amstein said. "The reality of the execution was certainly much more difficult than what we had expected."

A licensing agreement was contracted with FremantleMedia and the idea evolved into a program within a year.

During the first round of Military Idol's installation-level competition, all contestants must sing without musical accompaniment. Three judges, who may include garrison commanders, command sergeant majors and local celebrities, narrow the field of

talent.

In the second round of local competition, judges and audiences determine who advances. The spectators' votes will be submitted by written ballots after the performers are finished and judges have completed critiques. The audience vote and judges' vote each counts 50 percent in determining who advances.

During the local semifinal and final rounds, judges will critique each performance but will not vote, leaving determination of the installation winners to the audiences.

When entering the venue, attendees will receive a ballot to cast one vote.

Installation-level prizes for the winner at each participating location include \$500 and temporary duty costs covered by USACFSC to compete in the Army-wide finals. The winning Soldier's unit also will receive \$500. Second-place contestants will receive \$250, and third-place performers will receive \$100.

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